

### **Listing of Claims**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (ORIGINAL) An apparatus for applying a coating such as one of paint and stain comprising:

    a blade having a front face and a back face interconnected and surrounded by an edge surface, said edge surface including a handle-end edge surface and a leading-end edge surface and side edge surfaces interconnecting said end edge surfaces; and

    an application pad including a plurality of bristles extending outwardly from said faces and said side edge surfaces and said leading-end edge surface.

2. (ORIGINAL) The apparatus of claim 1 wherein said bristles are directional.

3. (ORIGINAL) The apparatus of claim 1 wherein said bristles adjacent said front and back faces and adjacent said side edge surfaces being slanted toward said handle-end surface.

4. (ORIGINAL) The apparatus of claim 3 wherein said bristles adjacent said leading-end edge surface extend away from said handle-end surface.

5. (ORIGINAL) The apparatus of claim 1 wherein said blade is resilient.

6. (WITHDRAWN) The apparatus of claim 1 wherein said blade is formed from at least two different materials.

7. (WITHDRAWN) The apparatus of claim 6 wherein said blade includes a first planar member defining an edge and being formed from a first material and a second planar member extending from said edge of said first planar member and defining said first and second side faces and said side edge surfaces wherein said second planar member being formed from a second material and said second material being more elastic than said first material.

8. (ORIGINAL) The apparatus of claim 1 wherein said applicator pad includes a non-absorbent fabric backing fixedly associated with said blade.

9. (ORIGINAL) The apparatus of claim 1 wherein a thickness of said blade increases between said leading-end edge surface and said handle-end surface.

10. (ORIGINAL) The apparatus of claim 1 wherein a rigidity of said blade increases between said leading-end edge surface and said handle-end surface.

11. (WITHDRAWN) The apparatus of claim 1 wherein a rigidity of said blade changes between said side edge surfaces.

12. (ORIGINAL) An apparatus for applying a coating such as one of paint and stain comprising:

a blade having a front face and a back face interconnected and surrounded by an edge surface, said edge surface including a handle-end edge surface and a leading-end edge surface and side edge surfaces interconnecting said end edge surfaces;

a handle for extending from said handle-end edge surface to a distal end;

an adapter for connection to said distal end of said handle and presenting a threaded connector; and

an applicator pad including a plurality of bristles for extending outwardly from said faces and said edge surfaces and said leading-end edge surface.

13. (ORIGINAL) The apparatus of claim 12 wherein a thickness of said blade is less than a thickness of said handle.

14. (ORIGINAL) The apparatus of claim 12 wherein said blade is one of releasibly connected to and integral with said handle.

15. (WITHDRAWN) The apparatus of claim 12 wherein one of said blade and said applicator pad includes a loop portion and said apparatus includes a hook member insertable in said loop portion to bend said blade and said applicator pad.

16. (ORIGINAL) The apparatus of claim 1 including a container defining an inwardly angled wiping lip and a handle releasibly engageable with said container.

17. (WITHDRAWN) The apparatus of claim 12 wherein said blade is formed, at least in part, from polyethylene terephthalate-glycol.

18. (ORIGINAL) The apparatus of claim 12 including a plurality of differently sized blades and corresponding applicator pads wherein each of said blades is releasibly connected to said handle.

19. (WITHDRAWN) An apparatus for applying a coating such as one of paint and stain comprising:

- a resilient blade having a front face and a back face interconnected and surrounded by and edge surface, said edge surface including a handle-end edge surface and a leading-end edge surface and side edge surfaces interconnecting said end edge surfaces;

- a handle for extending from said handle-end edge surface to a distal end;

- an adapter for connection to said distal end of said handle and presenting a threaded connector;

- an applicator pad including a plurality of bristles for extending outwardly from said faces and said edge surfaces and said leading-end edge surface and said applicator pad including a loop portion;

- a hook member insertable in said loop portion to bend said blade and said applicator pad;

- a container defining an inwardly angled wiping lip; and

- a handle releasibly engageable with said container.

20. (ORIGINAL) An apparatus for applying a coating such as one of paint and stain comprising:

- a blade having a front face and a back face interconnected and surrounded by an edge surface, said edge surface including a handle-end edge surface and a leading-end edge surface and side edge surfaces interconnecting said end edge surfaces;

- an applicator pad including a plurality of bristles extending outwardly from one of said faces; and

- a handle extending from said handle-end edge surface and integrally formed with said blade wherein said handle is thicker than said blade.